RESEARCH BEING MADE- 1940

Arnett Lindsay Named Manuscript Supervisor

The appointment of Arnett G. Lindsay as supervisor of Negro manuscripts for all Historical Records Survey Projects of the Work Projects Administration was announced this week by Mrs. Florence Kerr, assistant commissioner of Work Projects.

Under Mr. Lindsay's supervision, an intensive survey will be made of manuscript material relating to the Negro. White-collar workers in all parts of the country will compile, check, and index this material. Wherever possible, the workers engaged in the task will be Negroes.

To Unearth Many Facts

The survey will make available a great mass of information concerning the part played by Negroes in this country's history and undoubtedly will bring to light many little-known facts.

Specifically, the survey will prepare bibliographies and other guides to such manuscripts, written by or about Negroes, as diaries, letters, wills, deeds, and other personal material of historical significance in the possession of private individuals and libraries, learned societies and other organizations.

Equipped with these bibliographies and guides, historians and other interested persons will be able to study all phases of Negro life in America of a new basis of accuracy and comprehensiveness.

Does Carnegie Research Work At Tuskegee Inst.

TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, Ala.—Louis R. Harper a collaborator on the Carnegie Study "The Negro in America" has been at Tuskegee obtaining information on the Negro in Education from the files of the Department of Records and Research.

Mr. Harper a graduate of Morehouse college and of the Tennessee A. and I. State college, has recently received his master's degree in education from Northwestern university in Evanston, Ill. He is at present working on a study of special vocational adaptations which are needed in Negro education.

Greenville, S. C. Piedmont
April 8, 1940

Blackwell Voted Committee Chief

Carolinians Honored At Knoxville Rally; Society Meets Next In Atlanta

Dr. B. O. Williams of Clemson was elected president of the Southern Sociological society at its annual meeting in Knoxville, Tenn. Saturday.

Dr. Williams, who has been secretary-treasurer of the society during the past year, succeeded Fred C. Frey of Louisiana State university.

Gordon Blackwell, professor of sociology at Furman and staff member of the Greenville County Council for Community Development, was appointed head of the publications committee.

Dr. Wilson Speaks

Dr. L. M. Wilson, federal official was the featured speaker in Knoxville with a talk on "Democratic Processes and Formulation of the Agricultural Policy."

Other officers elected were Miss Dorothy Dickins of Mississippi State college, first vice president; Roy M. Brown of the University of North Carolina, second vice president; D. Coyle E. Moore of Florida State College for Women, secretary-treasurer. William E. Cole of the University of Tennessee, and Charles T. Gomillion of Tuskegee Institute, executive committeemen.

Meet Next In Atlanta

Charles S. Johnson of Fisk university served as last year's first vice president, and Miss Bellbone Beard of Sweetbriar college was second vice president.

Newly-appointed committee chairmen are Miss Dorothy Dickins, research; Roy M. Brown, public welfare; Miss Jarman Hagood of the University of North Carolina, resolutions.

Thirteen South Carolina sociologists were present and the total registration was 206 of the 276 members. The society will meet in Atlanta next year on the first weekend in April provided hotel accommodations are available.

E. FRANKLIN FRAZIER TO SOUTH AMERICA FOR STUDY

NEW YORK — Dr. E. Franklin Frazier and Mrs. Frazier, who have been stopping at the Hotel Theresa for the past week, have left for South America where Dr. Frazier will be engaged in a study of racial, economic and social problems for the next year.

Dr. Frazier is a member of the faculty of Howard university and is distinguished for his studies of Negro Urban life, his volume of the Negro in Chicago being the outstanding work on the subject.

Before going to Howard Dr. Frazier was professor of sociology at Morehouse college, while at Morehouse he founded the Atlanta School of Social Work, now headed by Forrester Washington and recently incorporated into the Atlanta university system.

RESEARCH BEING MADE - 1940

AFRICA

DR. FISHER STUDIES AFRICAN CULTURE

Courier
8-3-40
Pittsburgh
Pa

DURHAM, N. C., Aug. The White Rock Baptist church has granted its pastor, Rev. Miles Mark Fisher, leave of absence for six weeks, which time will be spent at the University of Chicago. Three half courses will be taken, with a view of throwing light upon the interpretation of African and American cultures.

Dr. Archibald Gillis Eaker of the university, probably the best authority on this subject, has encouraged Rev. Fisher to believe that he has probably discovered the origin and character of the Negro spirituals. The professor says: "I know of no subject more intriguing or more illuminating than the one which Mr. Fisher has chosen, because nothing will reveal more accurately the soul of the Negro people than these spirituals through which they gave spontaneous expression to their fears and their hopes. So far as I have been able to discover, no serious investigation has so far been undertaken into this rather elusive and difficult topic."

Making Study
NOV 3 1940

Nelson C Jackson, head of the Department of Community Organization, Atlanta University School of Social Work, who has been released to make a study of Omaha's Woodson Center in order that the agency may better serve the needs of a poly-glot community of 14 races.

Dublin, Ga., Citizen
October 31, 1940

FIRST COMPLETE SURVEY OF ATLANTA NEGRO PUBLISHED

The first comprehensive statistical study of the economic and social status and the community organization of Atlanta Negroes, entitled "The Atlanta Negro," is just off the press and its 136 pages of graphs, tables and explanation contain a wealth of material for further analysis.

Prepared by Dr. Joseph A. Pierce, chairman of the department of mathematics at Atlanta University, who was assisted by Marion M. Hamilton, the work also shows how Atlanta's Negro population stacks up with the rest of Georgia, the south and even the nation. The study was sponsored by the American Youth Commission of the American Council on Education in co-operation with the National Youth Administration of Georgia.

Studies in population, comparisons of Negro economical status with the mean level of whites, birth and mortality tables, educational advantages and other data are treated in cold statistics and they tell their own story without comment by the editors.

Work was begun on the project in February ,1939, and thus for the first time in Georgia a comprehensive study of the Negro is available as the basis of reference for libraries, research centers and students who wish to make a broad study of the subject.

With the 1940 census just around the corner, the authors used 1930 census figures in many of the comparisons, especially those of population, but the fact that the study is the first real attempt to treat a subject in which sociologists, economists, criminologists and others in the social field are interested makes it a valuable reference work and probably provides a foundation for future and more up-to-the minute comparisons.

The diversity of subjects treated will commend it to the student, who in the past had no starting point in his research, and to those who have wondered about various social aspects in the past without any authoritative yardstick to guide them.

Based on 1930 census figures, Atlanta had a population of 90,075 Negroes, or 33.3 per cent of the total number living within the city limits. Birmingham had 99,077 Negroes, or 38.2 per cent of the population, and Memphis had a 96,550 Negro population, representing 38.1 per cent of its citizens. New Orleans came fourth with 28.3 pr cent and Washington, D. C., fifth, with 27.1.

The Atlanta population climbed from 512 Negroes in 1810 to its 1930 total. In 1850 Negroes accounted for only 19.9 per cent of the city's population. The greatest percentage of Negroes in Atlanta was in 1870, immediately after the Civil War, when there were 9,929 Negroes, or 45.6 per cent of the 21,787 total population at that time.

From 1860 until 1870 the Negro population of Atlanta increased 412.1 percent, while during the same period the white residents increased only 55.7 per cent. During the same period, Negro population in Georgia increased 17.1 per cent while whites increased only 8 per cent. In the United States, Negroes increased 21.4 pr cent to 27.5 per cent for white persons.

A study of educational facilities avaialable for Negroes and white students from 6 to 18 years of age for the 1937-38 school year showed that the 18,167 Negro youths had 13 schools to 54 for the 36,548 white studentst and that the per capita cost of educating the Negroes was $29.77, while it stood at $91.29 a year for whites.

The school population for the year was 54,715 of which 18,167, or 33.2 per cent, were Negroes. The average grade completed by the Negroes was 6.9, while it stood at 9.1 for whites.

Negroes, however, attended schools more regularly than did white children, with Negro attendance being set at 83.20 per cent, while white attendance was set at 76.87 per cent.

Illiteracy, however, is on the rapid decline in Atlanta and is being eradicated more rapidly in Atlanta than the average decline elsewhere in the south.

In 1930 thre were 7,801 illiterate Negroes, or 10.4 per cent, as against 1,478 white persons, representing only 1 per cent of white population but in 1938 the illiterate Negro total had been reduced to 1,469, or 1.6 per cent.

Launch Commission To Probe Urban Conditions

Defender

The Illinois State commission to investigate the conditions of the urban colored population of the state got underway Wednesday when its research director was appointed and procedure for the study was adopted. Chicago, Ill.

The commission, of which Senator William A. Wallace of Chicago is chairman, was created by the Illinois State General Assembly in its 1939 session, and an appropriation of $10,000 was made for its work. Members of the commission were appointed by Gov. Henry Horner.

The Assembly was impressed by the strong pleas made by Senator Wallace, Alderman Earl B. Dickerson of Chicago, A. L. Foster of the Chicago Urban League, Representative Ernest A. Greene of Chicago and other citizens and legislators for the immediate necessity of a thorough inquiry into the economic, cultural, health and living conditions of Race members in the urban centers of this state and commanded the commission to make recommendations to the body to improve these conditions.

Henderson Named Head

The commission appointed Elmer W. Henderson, graduate student in the department of sociology at the University of Chicago as director of research. Mr. Henderson, an experienced research worker, was highly recommended by important faculty members of the university.

Applications are being accepted for other positions on the research staff

The commission will follow, in general, the method used by the New York State commission which made a similar study two years ago. Records of public and private agencies will be examined. Questionaires will be sent to employers, trade unions, and city and state departments.

Interviews will be made with public officials, heads of agencies and private citizens. The commission will also hold public hearings in Chicago, Cairo, East St. Louis and Springfield at which time employers, public officials and private citizens will be queried.

Special attention will be given to the problems of employment (both public and private), housing, health, civil rights and education. It is in these areas, the commission feels, that the greatest ills of the Race population of this state lie.

Alderman Dickerson was appointed chairman of the important sub-committee on supervision with Mr. Foster, Atty. C. C. Wimbish Senator John J. Parish of Centralia and Representative I. A. "Jack' Palmer of West Frankfort as members.

Other members of the commission are: Rep. Ernest A. Greene, secretary; Rep. Arthur M. Kaindl of Chicago, Sen. William J. Conners of Chicago, Sen. Clinton L. Ewing of Douglas, Sen. O. E. Benson of Ottawa, Rep. William J. Lawler of Springfield, and Rep. Emmett McGrath of River Forest.

U. OF C. STUDENT HEADS STUDY OF NEGRO PROBLEMS

Chicago, Ill.

Elmer W. Henderson, graduate student in the department of sociology at the University of Chicago, was named yesterday, as director of research for the Illinois State Commission on Negro Problems. The commission was created in 1939 by the legislature which appropriated $10,000 for a study of problems affecting the state's colored population.

Special attention is to be given in the study to employment problems, housing, health, civil rights, and education. Following its study the commission will make recommendations to the legislature.

Members of the commission, who selected Henderson, include Ald. Earl B. Dickerson [2d], Senator William A. Wallace, Representative Arthur M. Kaindl, and Senator William J. Conners.

The Negro Commission

Bee

8-17-40

Chicago, Ill.

LAST year the Illinois General Assembly created a commission to investigate the economic, cultural and social conditions of urban Negroes in this state. The sum of $10,000 was appropriated for the expense of conducting the investigation. The commission is to report to the 1941 session of the General Assembly.

For some reason the appointment of the commission members was withheld for an unreasonable time. The first year has passed and nothing has been done except the appointment of the personnel. Another year and the report will be due.

With the appointment of the members of the commission and the recent appointment of Elmer W. Henderson as research director, the work is about to get under way. Henderson is well fitted for the position. He is a young, hard-hitting-serious-minded graduate student ot the University of Chicago and possesses a keen and appreciative sense for the Negro problems and some insight to their solutions. The Chicago City Wide Forum is his contribution to this city. Henderson's job is to find facts. The commission was created for that purpose. A good job should be done.

The commission members who lived in the city are well known for their interest in the welfare of the Negroes of Illinois. State Senator William A. Wallace and Representative Ernest A. Greene demonstrated a masterpiece of statesmanship in the General Assembly last year when the former steered the bill to outlaw restrictive covenants successfully through the Senate and the latter aided in getting the bill out of the House Judiciary committee. A. L. Foster, Ald. Earl B. Dickerson and Atty. C. C. Wimbish have done much for the struggle for equal rights and justice for their people and understand the problems confronting them in Illinois.

Much remedial legislation should be enacted in favor of Negroes on the basis of the report. That is what happened in New York when a similar commission made its final report.

The Negro's status in this state, like in all others where he lives, is contingent upon his earnings. Give colored people good jobs and you will have less of the social maladjustments of which they are so bountifully supplied. So the commission will doubtless give considerable attention on the employment problems confronting the Negroes. It will no doubt give attention to labor unions that draw the color line. It will evidently bring in the heads of the utility companies before the various public hearings that will be conducted and find out why their companies systematically discriminate against Negroes. It should certainly subpoena the officials of the Motor Coach, street car and elevated companies to inquire into the discriminatory policies which they practice.

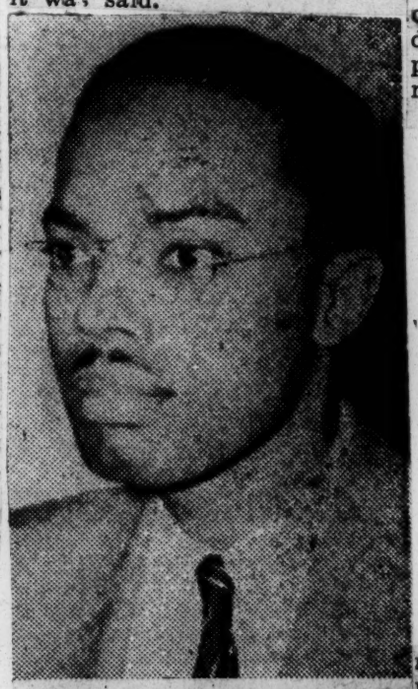
Map Probe of Conditions Of Negroes in Illinois

Chicago's 250,000 Negroes, forty-five per cent of whom are said to be on home and work relief, will have their conditions of life thoroughly probed in the next few months, according to Elmer W Henderson, recently appointed director of the Illinois State Commission to Investigate the Conditions of the Colored Urban Population.

Mr. Henderson, who is a student at the University of Chicago, completing his work for a doctor's degree in sociology, visited New York this week to confer with Lester B. Granger, former director of the New York State Temporary Commission on the Condition of the Urban Colored Population, and others, before getting to work on his extensive probe of Negro conditions in Chicago.

Problems of housing and discrimination of various sorts and unemployment among Negroes will be studied and recommendations made to effect their solutions, Mr. Henderson said.

Of particular seriousness, according to Mr. Henderson, is the existence of restrictive covenants which prohibit the sale of houses and lands in so-called exclusive localities to Negroes. These covenants have the effect of establishing a ghetto for Negroes, where, in certain places, 10 families are forced to use one bathroom and toilet. High rents are also a serious problem it wa, said.



Elmer W. Henderson, who was recently appointed director of research into conditions of Negro life in Chicago.

Research Director
Afro-American

ELMER W. HENDERSON, A former Baltimorean and graduate student in the department of sociology at Chicago University, who has been appointed research director for the recently formed commission to study living conditions among the urban colored population of Illinois. The Illinois General Assembly appropriated $10,000 for the work.

A Labor Probe

OCT 6 1940

THE state commission to inquire into the the present economic, cultural, health and living condition of the urban Negroes is proceeding with its work.

In its investigation it will uncover a good many facts about discrimination that will surprise the white people of this state but won't surprise a good many Negroes.

The fact that the Commission will be acting for and on behalf of the state of Illinois will give it a certain amount of influence not possessed by civic organizations. The Commission will not be biased. It is a fact finding body. Its findings, therefore, will interest students searching for objective facts about inter-racial relations.

Elmer W. Henderson, the Commission's research director, stated that labor unions which bar Negroes will be investigated. Labor leaders will be subpoenaed before the commission to testify as to racial discrimination in their respective organizations. If the commission does no more than to prevent discrimination in labor unions it will have produced results worthy of its creation.

There are many labor unions in Illinois that absolutely refuse membership to Negroes. Some limit the number of Negro members while others have no restrictions based on race.

The National Labor Relations Act gives to employees the rights to bargain with their employer. Unions and employers usually agree that only union members may work. The NLRB will endorse such contracts and the courts will enforce them. But if Negro workers are not admitted into such unions they are barred from work. Since the National Labor Relations Act makes no provision as to racial discrimination the relief lies in the opening of all unions to all workers without regards to color or race.

There are 5,500,000 Negroes who are gainfully employed in the nation. Only 175,000 are members of unions and the CIO, which has no limitations or restrictions based on race, claims 75,000. Some twenty unions of the AFL draw the color line.

Negroes should be admitted freely to all unions. If the Commission can put pressure on AFL union leaders to get rid of color prejudice the $10,000 appropriated for expenses will have been well spent.

Study of Living Conditions Of Negroes Being Made

NOV 22 1940

The Illinois State Commission on the condition of the Urban Colored Population will hold its first public hearing in East St. Louis, Friday at 10 a.m. in Judge Cook's office on the second floor of the City hall, Elmer W. Henderson, its director, announced today.

The serious lack of employment opportunities, bad housing, inadequate health and educational facilities and repeated denials of elementary civil rights to Negro citizens are the major problems of the Commission stated Henderson, who has been making a study of this region for several weeks.

The Commission, which is nonpartisan, was created by the General Assembly of Illinois to inquire into and make specific recommendations for the improvement of the economic, cultural, health and living conditions of the state's colored population. The appointment of the Commission was in recognition of the widespread disadvantages under which Negroes have labored.

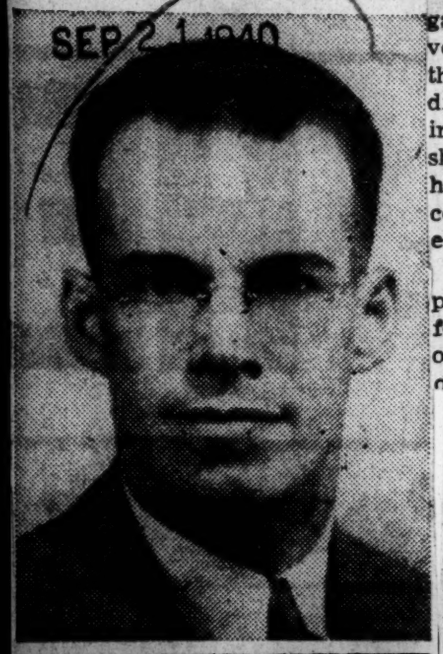
At the public hearing, during which the Commission will sit as a court, representatives of the East St. Louis community will testify as to the conditions of Negroes in that area. Employers, city and state officials, real estate operators, utility executives and others will also be questioned.

Senator William A. Wallace of Chicago, is chairman of the Commission and Alderman Earl B. Dickerson of Chicago is chairman of the sub-committee on supervision. Representative I. A. Palmer of West Frankfort is vice chairman, and Representative Ernest A. Green of Chicago, is secretary. Other members of the commission are; Hon. A. L. Foster, executive secretary of the Chicago Urban League; Sen. O. E. Benson of Ottawa; Sen. Clinton L. Ewing of Douglass; Sen. John J. Parish of Centralia; Hon. C. C. Wimbish of Chicago; Rep. Arthur M. Kaindle of Chicago; Rep. William L. Lawler of Springfield and Rep. Emmett McGrath of River Forest.

The Commission is receiving the cooperation of public officials, heads of agencies and institutions, ministers and community leaders generally in East St. Louis and the surrounding metropolitan region. Many have volunteered their services and given valuable counsel.

Finishes Important Study

SEP 21 1940



Prof. James H. Birnie Completes Important Study On Mosquitoes

ORANGEBURG, S. C.—An investigation dealing with the identification, distribution and life-habits of malaria transmitting mosquitoes found throughout South Carolina has just been completed by Prof. James H. Birnie, head of the Department of Biology, South Carolina State A. & M. College.

This survey conducted for the past year under the auspices of the South Carolina State College Department of Biology has revealed many new and important facts regarding malaria transmission in this section. A new malaria carrier, namely, Anopheles walkeri, was discovered in the State and considerable information was obtained regarding the life-habits of the other malaria carriers.

In addition to the study of the malaria carriers, considerable new data was obtained regarding the life-habits and possible role in disease transmission of twenty-one other species of mosquitoes found in South Carolina.

This is one of the first investigations to bring together a large volume of information regarding the identification of the various disease transmitting forms found in this section, and the data should prove valuable to public health officials interested in the control of malaria and other diseases.

The Department of Biology plans to continue the investigation for another year in an effort to obtain data on the winter stages of the malaria transmitters as little is known regarding this phase of the problem.

Prof. James Hope Birnie was on leave in 1939-40, studying towards his Ph.D. degree in biology at Cornell University. Prof. Birnie is a graduate of Morehouse College and received his Master of Science degree from Brown University in 1932. He has completed all resident requirements for the doctor's degree at Cornell University